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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

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No. 116

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WEBSTER).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
August 1, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DANIEL WEBSTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, July 31, 2012.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I hereby resign from the office of United States Representative for the Fourth District of Kentucky, effective at close of business on July 31, 2012. Enclosed is the letter I have submitted to Governor Steve Beshear.

I thank the people of Kentucky's Fourth District for the honor of serving as their Congressman over the last eight years.

When I was a Cadet at West Point, I internalized the words of the U.S. Military Academy's motto, "Duty, Honor, Country." Next, I learned that success was based on honoring God, Family, and Work, in that order. In December 2011, I decided that in order to honor those values, I needed to retire from Congressional service so I could more effectively serve my family as a husband and father.

Those priorities continue to guide my decisions. Recently, a family health issue has developed that will demand significantly more of my time to assist. As a result, I cannot continue to effectively fulfill my obligations to both my office and my family. Family must and will come first.

I have served with great men and women in the Congress in both parties, and leave knowing that the House is filled with people who love this country and are working to make our future better. I am grateful to have been blessed by being a part of this great institution.

Sincerely,

GEOFF DAVIS,  
*Member of Congress.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, July 31, 2012.

Hon. STEVE BESHEAR,  
*Governor, Commonwealth of Kentucky, Frankfort, Kentucky.*

DEAR GOVERNOR BESHEAR: I hereby resign from the office of United States Representative for the Fourth District of Kentucky, effective at close of business on July 31, 2012.

When I was a Cadet at West Point, I internalized the words of the U.S. Military Academy's motto, "Duty, Honor, Country." Next, I learned that success was based on honoring God, Family, and Work, in that order. In December 2011, I decided that in order to honor those values, I needed to retire from Congressional service so I could more effectively serve my family as a husband and father.

Those priorities continue to guide my decisions. Recently, a family health issue has developed that will demand significantly more of my time to assist. As a result, I cannot continue to effectively fulfill my obligations to both my office and my family. Family must and will come first.

I thank the people of Kentucky's Fourth District for the honor of serving as their Congressman over the last eight years.

Sincerely,

GEOFF DAVIS,  
*Member of Congress.*

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS), the whole number of the House is 431.

### REPORT IN THE MATTER OF ALLEGATIONS RELATING TO REPRESENTATIVE LAURA RICHARDSON

Mr. BONNER, from the Committee on Ethics, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112-642) in the matter of allegations relating to Representative LAURA RICHARDSON which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

### RECOGNIZING STEVE LATOURETTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives is a unique and special place. There are many political offices in America where one can get into office via accident or appointment, but every man and woman on this floor had to be elected by friends and neighbors to deal with the fiscal and economic health of the Nation, for giving voice to people's fears, aspirations, and dreams. I count every day of service in Congress as a gift. Our friend and colleague STEVE LATOURETTE's announcement that he would not seek reelection should give pause to every one of us.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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